

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:MRDWORKEN:DME

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL

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R 191355Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

UNCLAS STATE 143880

FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO AMCONSUL  
THESSALONIKI SECDEF WASHDC USCINCEUR CINCUSAFE USDOCOSOUTH  
7206 ABGP ATHENAI APRT GR FROM AMEMBASSY ATHENS 13 JUN 75:

QUOTE UNCLAS ATHENS 4396

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GR

SUBJECT: STRIKE ENDS AT ATHENAI AIR BASE

REF: ATHENS 4344

1. THE STRIKE OF GREEK EMPLOYEES, PRIMARILY THOSE AT  
ATHENAI AIR BASE, WHICH BEGAN ON JUNE 12 ENDED ABOUT  
1:00 P.M. ON JUNE 13 WHEN MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT LASKARIS  
ANNOUNCED THREE GOG PROMISES TO A GROUP OF ABOUT 80 GREEK  
STRIKERS OUTSIDE THE BASE. THE MINISTER REPORTEDLY SAID:  
(A) THE GOG AGREES TO REEMPLOY IN GREECE THE 64 RECENTLY  
DISMISSED EMPLOYEES; (B) THE GOG WILL TAKE CARE OF FUTURE  
EMPLOYEES DISMISSED BY US FORCES BUT THIRD COUNTRY (SIC)  
NATIONALS WITHOUT WORK PERMITS WOULD HAVE TO BE DISMISSED  
FIRST; AND (C) FOLLOWING REQUEST BY THE HELLENIC OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATION, HIS MINISTRY WOULD WRITE TO GERMANY (USAFE  
HEADQUARTERS) TO SEEK WAGE COMPENSATION FOR THOSE ON STRIKE  
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THE PAST TWO DAYS.

2. WITHIN HALF HOUR OF THE MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT, BOTH THE ATHENAI AIR BASE STRIKERS AND THE HUNGER STRIKE DEMONSTRATORS HAD COMPLETELY CLEARED OUT FROM THEIR SITES NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE BASE. APPARENTLY, THERE WAS NO FORMAL UNION ACTION TO END THE STRIKE, WITH THE GOG'S PROMISES THROUGH THE MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT CONSIDERED AS SUFFICIENT.

3. COMMENT: WE WILL NOT KNOW UNTIL TOMORROW OR MONDAY WHETHER ALL STRIKERS ARE RETURNING TO WORK AND EXACTLY WHAT MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT PROMISED THE STRIKERS. PROMISE (A) SUGGESTS REEMPLOYMENT FOR SOME WORKERS MAY BE ELSEWHERE IN GREECE THAN IN ATHENS. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE SUBSTANCE OF PROMISE (B) SINCE THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THE RELATIVELY FEW THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS EMPLOYED BY THE U.S. FORCES HAVE WORK PERMITS. PROMISE (C) WAS PRESUMABLY IN RESPONSE TO UNION LOBBYING THROUGH THE HOA, THE LEGAL EMPLOYER AT THE BASE. THE UNION HAS ACHIEVED THE MAJOR PURPOSE BEHIND THE STRIKE, I.E. TO GET THE GOG TO COMMIT ITSELF PUBLICLY TO JOB SECURITY FOR GREEK EMPLOYEES DISMISSED AS A RESULT OF SCALING DOWN OF U.S. FORCES ACTIVITIES. KUBISCH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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